

## WATER CONSERVATION UPDATE

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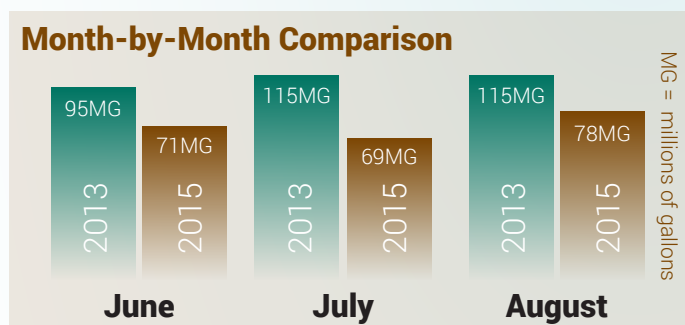
### Trabuco Canyon Water District Customers Save Over 108 Million Gallons of Water

In response to the State Water Board's mandate that we reduce our water use by limiting outdoor irrigation and preventing water waste, you have helped make an impact by doing your part. Due to your efforts, together we are closer to meeting the State's mandated Conservation Standard of 28% which equates to a mandate to save approximately 214,083,450 gallons between the months of June 2015 through February 2016. From June to August this year, we collectively cut back our water use and saved about 108,035,300 gallons of water.

Thank you! Keep up the good work. We are truly in this together.

### Water Use (2015 Compared to 2013)

This chart shows our water use compared to the base year.



### State Water Board Reduces TCWD's Conservation Standard From 32% to **28%**!

In early May, TCWD received a mandatory Conservation Standard and expected to reduce our water use by 32%.

According to General Manager Hector Ruiz, *"Based on what we knew about our service area, the mandated water reduction goal didn't seem right. At the time, we immediately started working to ensure the accuracy of the State's calculations and goals set for our district."*

After contacting the State Water Board about our concerns, we were given a short window and one opportunity to make our case. We revisited every calculation, performed our due diligence and presented updated reports and findings by our deadline in late May.

Specifically, we demonstrated to the State Water Board that TCWD's customers have a lower per capita per day usage, which would place our district at a lower conservation goal. To further prove this point, our water operations team emphasized our water production efficiencies.

#### THE RESULT:

Our mandated Conservation Standard was reduced to 28%!

### Looking Ahead

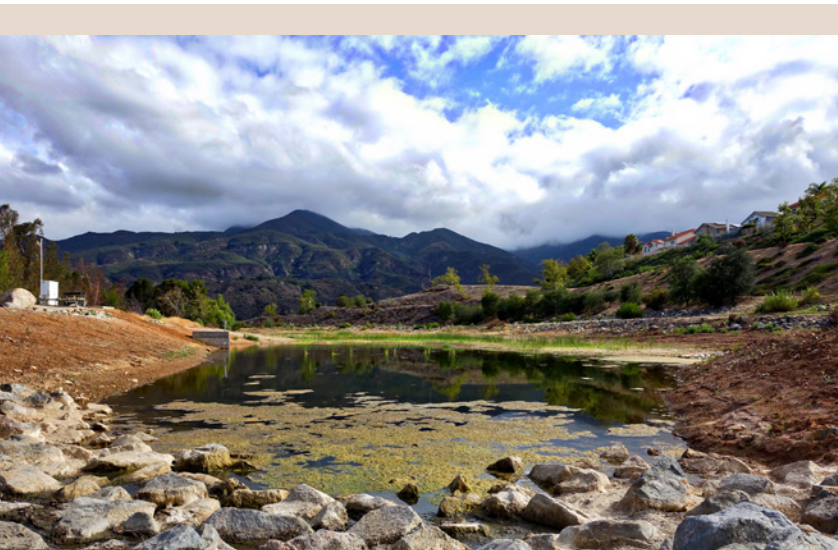
Because we're still in the midst of this major drought, we want to encourage you to continue to make water conservation a priority. We have been fortunate to have experienced cooler weather over the past few months, which has helped. However, there are some hot months ahead, in addition to Santa Ana winds that tend to dry out grass and plants during the months of September and October.

Please visit [tcwd.ca.gov](http://tcwd.ca.gov) for up-to-date drought information plus, water-saving tips, rebates and details on regulations.

## Trabuco Canyon Water District's **Shadow Rock Detention Basin Facility**

In addition to our customer's water conservation efforts, we are adding new recycled water users and capturing valuable new sources of water runoff. Recently, we completed the Shadow Rock Detention Basin Urban Water Recovery Project (Shadow Rock Project), a new facility that is expected to add millions of gallons to the region's runoff water reserves.

In a normal year, the facility is expected to capture, treat and store 20 million gallons of water that might otherwise flow to the ocean, through the storm drain system, soak into the ground or evaporate. This will add to the 50 million gallons of water that Trabuco Canyon Water District already recovers from its Dove Creek and Tick Creek urban runoff and recovery projects.



The wetland configuration is designed to alleviate water stagnation that fosters mosquito breeding. Furthermore, the wetland configuration will significantly improve the water quality, reuse runoff, as well as improve the storm drain and water retention capacity at the site. Additionally, the Shadow Rock Project will ease dependence on two major sources of water, the California State Water Project and the Colorado River, and it will provide for maintenance of the basin that will minimize existing weed and vector issues – all which are excellent news to TCWD customers.

Although the cost of the facility was \$760,500, Proposition 84 grant funds from the State's Department of Water Resources funded 75% of the project's costs. TCWD partnered with the South Orange County Watershed Management Area Group and the local homeowner's association and land owner, the Trabuco Highlands Community Association, to receive the funding.

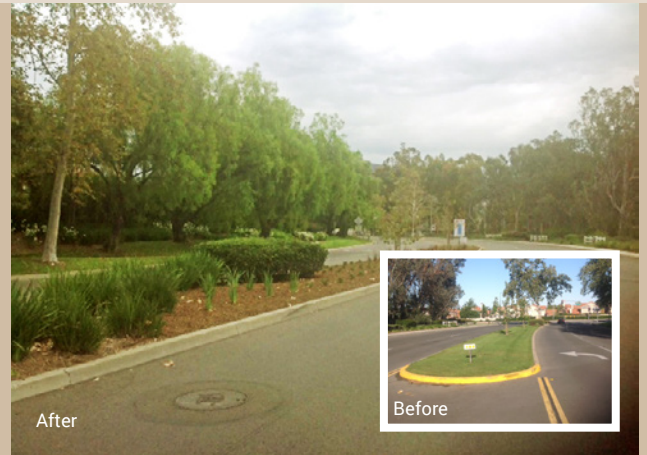
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## **HOA Spotlight**

### Robinson Ranch Replaces Turf to Save Water and Maintain Beauty

In order to comply with the State's water use reduction mandate, Robinson Ranch Community Association is replacing over 21,000 square feet of turf with a more efficient irrigation system and drought tolerant plant material.

According to Kendrah Kay, Director of Community Management, "RRCA is extremely concerned about the drought and is taking appropriate steps in an effort to save water while beautifying the community. Our Board of Directors are encouraging owners to participate in the water conservation effort by offering a water savings raffle and monthly tips to assist owners with water mandate compliance."



**Thank you for doing your part Robinson Ranch. The community looks great.**



[tcwd.ca.gov](http://tcwd.ca.gov)

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